



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

INSPECTION REPORT

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Partial: Complete: XXX Exploration:
Inspection Date & Time: 3/15/2000 / 8:00a.m.-1:00p.m.
Date of Last Inspection: 2/28/2000

Mine Name: West Ridge Mine County: Carbon Permit Number: ACT/007/041
Permittee and/or Operator's Name: West Ridge Resources, Inc.
Business Address: P.O. Box 902, Price, Utah 84501
Type of Mining Activity: Underground XXX Surface Prep. Plant Other
Company Official(s): Mike Glasson
State Officials(s): Peter H. Hess, Paul Baker, Wayne Western, Mike Suflita
Federal Official(s): None Weather Conditions: Partly Cloudy, 40's
Existing Acreage: Permitted- 2660.27 Disturbed- 25 Regraded- Seeded- Bonded-
Increased/Decreased: Permitted- Disturbed- Regraded- Seeded- Bonded-
Status: Exploration/ Active/ Inactive/ Temporary Cessation/ Bond Forfeiture
Reclamation (Phase I/ Phase II/ Final Bond Release/ Liability Year)

REVIEW OF PERMIT, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS & PERMIT CONDITION REQUIREMENTS

Instructions

- Substantiate the elements on this inspection by checking the appropriate performance standard.
 - For complete inspections provide narrative justification for any elements not fully inspected unless element is not appropriate to the site, in which case check N/A.
 - For partial inspections check only the elements evaluated.
- Document any noncompliance situation by referencing the NOV issued at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
- Reference any narratives written in conjunction with this inspection at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
- Provide a brief status report for all pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Division Orders, and amendments.

	EVALUATED	N/A	COMMENTS	NOV/ENF
1. PERMITS, CHANGE, TRANSFER, RENEWAL, SALE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. SIGNS AND MARKERS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. TOPSOIL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:				
a. DIVERSIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. WATER MONITORING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. EXPLOSIVES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. DISPOSAL OF EXCESS SPOIL/FILLS/BENCHES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. NONCOAL WASTE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. BACKFILLING AND GRADING	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. REVEGETATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. CESSATION OF OPERATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. ROADS:				
a. CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/SURFACING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. DRAINAGE CONTROLS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. SUPPORT FACILITIES/UTILITY INSTALLATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. AVS CHECK (4th Quarter-April, May, June) <u> </u> (date)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. AIR QUALITY PERMIT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. BONDING & INSURANCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

1. PERMITS, CHANGE, TRANSFER, RENEWAL, SALE

The permittee currently has the following amendments into the UDNR/OGM for review:

- a. An amendment to permit the "C" Canyon road above the gate which is located 0.2 miles down Canyon of the permittee's identification sign.
- b. An "as-built" submittal for the sediment pond and the highwall area.
- c. A "snow storage" plan within the upper cell of the sediment pond.

The initial deficiency response has been sent regarding the gate issue; items 2 and 3 are still under initial review.

The permittee is also preparing a submittal to permit the pump house which provides lift and volume for the culinary water system for the Mine.

4b. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS

The fourth quarter impoundment inspection for the twin cell sediment pond was conducted by Brandon McDougall, mining engineer on December 31, 1999. There were no hazardous conditions noted in Mr. McDougall's inspection report. There were no hazards noted during today's field inspection.

Mr. Dan Guy, P.E., Blackhawk Engineering also inspected the impoundment on December 17, 1999. No hazards were noted. Mr. Guy indicated that the upper cell still needed to have a sediment marker installed. As observed today, a lathe/ribbon has been installed in the SE corner of the upper cell. As noted above, an "as-built" drawing for this impoundment has been submitted to the UDNR/OGM. Verification of the sediment marker location needs to be performed.

4c. OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES

Erosion gullies were observed on both sides of the truck loadout reclaim belt portal. This area is still under construction. Snow melt runoff from the coal storage pad has gone under the Jersey barriers east of the engineering office trailer and cut the hydro mulched outslope in the two locations mentioned. Mr. Glasson intends to berm the inside of the Jersey barriers to redirect the flow away from the outslope.

A "skeeter pond" was observed immediately NNE of the engineering trailer located on the coal storage pad, probably due to settling of the fill here. This is a problem with the surface drainage system and it should be addressed when possible. The cleanup of snow at the site has re-generated a lot of fill (collected during the snow pushing process). Use of some of this recollected fill in this depression would be advantageous.

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Straw bales, which have been placed in the Carbon County road ditch down Canyon of the disturbed area perimeter, need minor maintenance. Until this portion of the road is permitted along with the "C" Canyon gate, the bales are outside of the UDNR/OGM area of jurisdiction.

4d. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: WATER MONITORING

The fourth quarter '99 water monitoring report for the site was submitted to the UDNR/OGM on January 24, 2000. Ms. Karla Knoop of JBR Environmental Consultants performs water monitoring for the permittee. All sites were monitored during the month of November. Sites ST-4, 5, 6, 6a and 7 did not have reportable flows. This report included a field summary and lab data for the newly established baseline spring site S-80, which is known as Hanging Rock spring.

Samples for S-80 and SP-13 had cation/anion balances reported as -5.1% and - 5.2% respectively. All other sample analyses relative to this parameter were within acceptable error limits.

4e. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

UPDES Point 002A, which is the Mine water discharge point, has been established but is not linked with the underground drainage system.. It is not known if arrangements have been made such that the sampling of this potential flow point is possible to meet UPDES monitoring frequency requirements. It is suggested that a sampling point for this outfall be established by the permittee well in advance of encountering significant ground water in the West Ridge Mine. It is not known if the Mine has any method(s) of treatment of this groundwater planned in-mine in order to meet UPDES parameters.

8. NONCOAL WASTE

Today's field inspection revealed that the site was in need of house keeping. Broken pallets, empty card board boxes, lunch debris, plastic shrink wrap and other forms of garbage were observed in numerous locations about the site. At least ten empty detonator boxes were observed about the base of the detonator storage magazine in the upper right fork. Contractor negligence in the reclaim conveyor construction area was evident. Garbage was observed in at least two ditch locations.

In lieu of issuing a notice of violation, the inspector requested that the permittee immediately address this issue. Mr. Glasson spoke with the day shift mine foreman, and several employees were immediately assigned to police the site. Several small pickup truck loads of garbage were removed from about the site to a controlled disposal area during the remaining hours of the inspection.

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It was later learned that a total of seven small pickup truck loads of trash were removed from the various areas of the Mine site.

9. PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE, AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES

Discharge monitoring reports for the site's two UPDES discharge points were reviewed. The UPDES permittee continues having difficulty obtaining adequate, correct forms to conduct this EPA monitoring requirement. Point 001A, which is the sediment pond, has never discharged. Point 002A is not linked to the mine drainage system, as only insignificant amounts of mine water have been encountered to date. It is suggested that the permittee note this fact within the cover letter which is prepared by same for the submittal of these documents to the required government entities.

10. SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE

During the early hours of 3/15/00, several boulders rolled from the hillside above the NE corner of the Mine's substation, penetrating the substation's chain link fence perimeter and damaging cooling fins on one of the substations transformers. A crack in the cooling fins allowed approximately six hundred gallons of mineral oil to drain from the transformer. Approximately 95%+ of this oil drained into the collection sump located immediately beneath the substation. It was the permittee's intent to use floor dry to absorb the oil, such that it could be picked up with shovels and disposed of properly. The UDNR/OGM inspector was notified of the occurrence when arriving on the Mine site at 8 AM. Although snow covered much of the ground about the substation, it is felt that the remaining volume of oil which was spilled caused minimal if any environmental damage. No oil reached any drainage. UDNR/OGM-SLO was notified of the incident during the afternoon hours of March 15, 2000.

18. SUPPORT FACILITIES/UTILITY INSTALLATIONS

Work continues on the construction of the truck loading facility; conveyor structure now extends to the top storage hopper. It appears that same will be operational within the next few weeks.

Note: This inspection report does not constitute an affidavit of compliance with the regulatory program of the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining.

Copy of this Report:

Mailed to: Mike Glasson (Andalex)

Henry Austin (OSM)

Given to: Pam Grubaugh-Littig (DOGM)

Filed to: Price Field Office

Date: March 17, 2000

Inspector's Signature: _____

Peter H. Hess

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